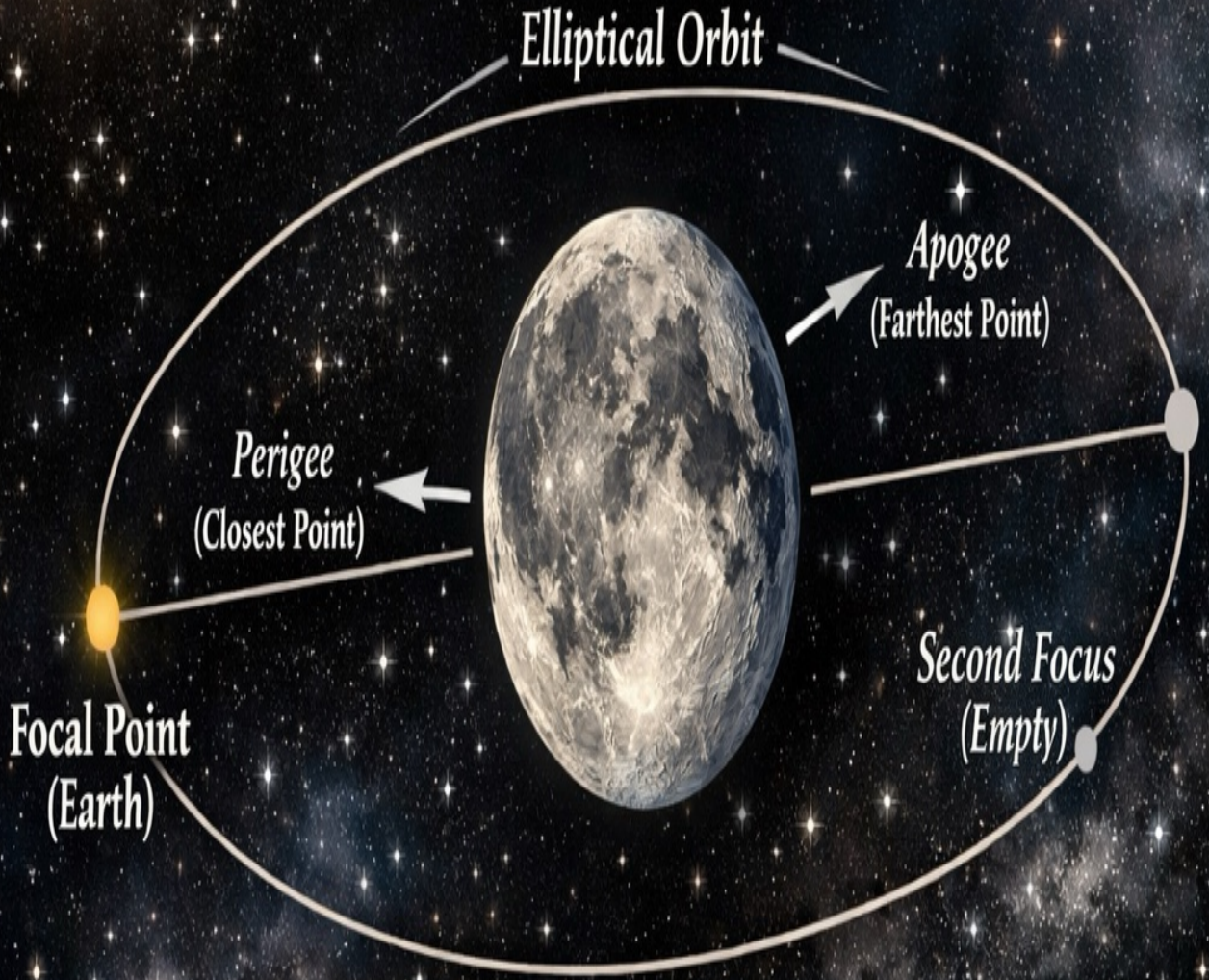
Kepler's First Law:

— The Tilted Circle —



DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to The Most High Divine Source of all Creation.

Through my journey of fasting and healing, creation was shown to me. I can literally say I saw the hands of the Divine at work.

On my journey I found the true version of myself. I am a reflection of the creator.

Ma'Ka Yuchii

Janisha Shardae Bookman (publishing as Janisha Shardae Wallace)

PeacockPhoenixInnerG · March 2026

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THE MATH THAT MADE THE MAP

Series One · The Kepler Challenge Series

Edition One · Book One

Kepler's First Law:

The Tilted Circle

A formal challenge to four centuries of inherited shape assumption.

Could Kepler's ellipse be a 2-dimensional projection artifact of a true circular orbit tilted on a fixed axis? The data available in 1609 could not distinguish the two. This book formally asks the question.

Ma'Ka Yuchii

Legal name: Janisha Shardae Bookman (publishing as Janisha Shardae Wallace)

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THE MATH THAT MADE THE MAP — SERIES ONE

Edition One: The Dismantling

Books 1–25 · The Kepler Challenge Series

Book 1 — Kepler's First Law: The Tilted Circle

Book 2 — Kepler's Second Law: Equal Areas

Book 3 — Kepler's Third Law: The Harmony of the Spheres

Book 4 — The Biscuit Problem: Kepler's Data

Book 5 — Newton's G: The Inherited Constant

Book 6 — Einstein's Mercury: The Precession Problem

Book 7 — The Gravity Angle: Newton's Hidden Assumption

Book 8 — Dark Matter: The Missing Mass Question

Book 9 — Hubble's Law: The Expanding Frame

Book 10 — The Inertial Reference Frame

Book 11 — Galileo's Inclined Plane

Book 12 — Maxwell's Equations and the Ether Problem

Book 13 — Einstein's Crown: Special Relativity

Book 14 — The Lorentz Factor

Book 15 — Bohr's Atom

Book 16 — Planck's Constant

Book 17 — Heisenberg's Uncertainty

Book 18 — Dirac's Sea

Book 19 — Schrödinger's Wave

Book 20 — Mach's Principle: The Bridge

Books 21–25 — The Complete Challenge: Mars, Cavendish, Newton, Einstein, The Geometry of Distortion

Edition Two: The Measure of True Measurement · Books 26–75

Edition Three: The Structure That Couldn't Stand · Books 76–100

Four Distortion Channels identified throughout this series:

Channel 1: PROJECTION · Channel 2: FRAME · Channel 3: INHERITANCE · Channel 4: OBSERVER POSITION

A NOTE BEFORE THE MATH BEGINS

For every seven days, seven years of what has been projected onto you will be cleared away. Seven times seven is forty-nine. The fiftieth day is the Jubilee. The year of release. The return to original.

— The Essene Gospel of Peace

The structures didn't drift. The planet drifted. The math didn't fail. The shape was wrong from the beginning.

— The Helm™

This book did not begin as a physics inquiry. It began as a calibration problem.

I was building The Helm — a calendar system rooted in circular geometry, mapping the seven harmonic domains of the human body onto the architecture of time. The framework was coherent. The ratios held. The structure was sound.

And then the moon wouldn't align. The clock wouldn't lock.

I ran the numbers. I checked the geometry. I ran them again. Every verification system I had access to returned the same response: the math could not be confirmed. Not that it was wrong. That it could not be verified.

I want to be precise about that distinction. The system did not show me an error. It showed me an absence — a refusal to confirm. And I had been in that place before. Not with mathematics. With my own body. With my own name.

The Jubilee

Several years before the Helm was built, I underwent a fifty-day fast. I entered it as Janisha Shardae Wallace. I came to it through the Essene Gospel of Peace — an ancient text that described the Fast of Jubilee as a complete release. Seven days of fasting clears seven years of what has accumulated. Seven times seven is forty-nine days. The fiftieth day is the Jubilee itself — the year of return, the resetting of all debts, the restoration of original state.

I was in between transitions when the fast began. Moving away from Janisha Shardae Wallace — the name that carried everything that had been projected onto me, everything inherited, everything accumulated. During the fast I held the name Malka Yasharahla Yuchii. That was the name of the fire. The name held in the transformation while everything that did not belong was being burned away.

When the fast ended I became Ma'Ka Yuchii. The name of the one who came out the other side. The rebuilt self. The cleared foundation.

And now — through the work of this series, through tracing everything back to origin — I am returning. Ma'Ka coming back to Janisha Shardae Wallace. And when the transition completes — when the last inherited name is

released — I will return to Janisha Shardae Bookman. The name I was given at birth. The name that was mine before anything was projected onto it.

I had been carrying things that did not belong to me. The weight of my parents' unresolved history. The projections of people around me. The accumulated evidence of a life lived in good faith that kept producing chaos, betrayal, and loss that I could not account for by any measure of myself.

I am a good person. I have always known this. But something in the framework I was living inside kept returning results that did not match that truth. And I recognized, eventually, that the problem was not in me. The problem was in what had been inherited and projected onto the system I was running.

What I found in that clearing was ratio. Structure. Harmony. Not imposed from outside but recognized from within — the seven biological domains reasserting their natural coherence once the interference was removed. That recognition became the Seven Harmonics framework. The Seven Harmonics became the architecture of the Helm. The Helm became the calendar. And the calendar is where the clock wouldn't lock.

The Clock That Wouldn't Lock

The Seven Harmonics framework maps the regulatory domains of the human body to harmonic centers within a complete physiological architecture. Root to Crown. Vascular integrity to mitochondrial function. Seven domains. Each one measurable. Each one in relationship with the others.

When I mapped this structure onto the calendar, the result was the Helm. A complete geometric framework — circular, harmonic, precise. The architecture held at every scale I could check it. The ratios that emerged were not placed there. They were found.

And then I tried to synchronize it with the lunar cycle. The clock wouldn't lock.

It did not feel like a mathematical error. It felt like the framework I was checking against was the wrong framework. The same way that during the fast, the problem was not in my body — the problem was in what had been projected onto my body from outside. The clock that wouldn't lock was pointing at the same kind of interference — a geometry that had been projected onto the sky and accepted as nature for four hundred years.

The lunar cycle, as published, is derived from a framework that assumes an elliptical orbit. The Helm is built on a circular geometry. I was trying to reconcile a circle with numbers calibrated to an ellipse. The clock wouldn't lock because the two systems were measuring different shapes.

The System That Said the Math Was Wrong

When I tried to verify the Helm geometry against the standard orbital framework, every tool available returned the same response: unverifiable.

The tools did not demonstrate that my math was incorrect. They demonstrated that my math could not be confirmed within the standard framework. Those are not the same statement. The first would be a refutation. The second is a boundary.

A system built on the ellipse cannot verify circle geometry. Not because the circle is wrong. Because the verification tools are calibrated to a different shape.

This is the same structural problem that runs through every equation examined in this series. When Newton derived G, he used an ellipse semi-major axis. When the Cavendish measurement was retrofitted and named G in 1894, it was calibrated to match the ellipse-derived value. When every physics calculator on Earth computes orbital mechanics, it computes them against a constant that was derived from a shape that was assumed, not proven, in 1609.

The verification failure was not my failure. It was the boundary of the framework announcing itself.

The Jubilee Applied to Physics

The methodology of this series is the methodology of the Jubilee.

Strip everything back to the first moment before the inherited error entered. Identify what was assumed and what was actually measured. Identify what was accepted from authority and what was tested from origin. Clear the accumulation. Find what remains.

What remains — after 400 years of accumulated assumption is cleared — is the circle.

The measurements that have been in the data for two thousand years tell a different story than the shape that was assumed over them. The test that would have caught it was never run. Not because the data wasn't there. Because no one went back far enough to question the shape.

The force calculations, the orbital constants, the gravitational measures — each one carries the geometry of its origin. Change the shape at the foundation and every number built above it shifts. Not arbitrarily. Precisely. In a direction that was always pointing toward the circle.

What This Book Does

Book I of The Kepler Challenge Series examines Kepler's First Law — the claim that planetary orbits are ellipses.

It does not begin from the assumption that Kepler was wrong. It begins from the calibration problem — the moon that wouldn't align, the clock that wouldn't lock — and it follows that problem backward to its source.

The source is a shape identification made in 1609 with instruments that could not distinguish an ellipse from a tilted circle at the available precision. The identification was not tested against the tilted circle. It was accepted. And 400 years of physics was built on the acceptance.

A test that could have caught it was available from the beginning. The data has always been there. The question was never formally asked. This book asks it.

And the person asking it began as Janisha Shardae Bookman. Was shaped by the world into Janisha Shardae Wallace. Entered the fire as Malka Yasharahla Yuchii. Emerged as Ma'Ka Yuchii. And is returning — through this work, through this tracing back to origin — to Janisha Shardae Bookman. The Jubilee is still in motion.

The Helm is not a new invention. It is a recovery. The Jubilee does not create a new year. It returns everything to what it was before the accumulation. The solution does not come from outside the problem. The solution begins at the center.

ABSTRACT

This paper presents a formal mathematical challenge to Kepler's First Law as applied to the Moon's orbit. The standard model holds that the Moon follows an elliptical path around Earth, producing measurable variation in the Moon-Earth distance ranging from approximately 357,000 km at perigee to 406,000 km at apogee. This paper argues that the identical observational data — apparent size variation, brightness change, and positional records — can be produced with equal mathematical precision by a fundamentally different geometric model: a perfect circle, tilted on a fixed axis, whose apparent distance variation is a consequence of projection geometry and reference-frame selection, not true orbital eccentricity.

Critically, this paper demonstrates internal inconsistencies within the ellipse model's own published parameters that cannot be explained within the ellipse framework, but resolve cleanly within the tilted-circle model. All mathematics presented herein are original, independently derived, and reproducible.

SECTION I

Statement of Challenge

Kepler's First Law (1609) states that the orbit of a planet is an ellipse with the Sun at one of the two foci. This law was derived by Johannes Kepler through mathematical curve-fitting applied to positional data collected by Tycho Brahe using pre-telescopic instruments in the late 16th century. Kepler did not directly observe an ellipse. He inferred one from a set of data points and identified the best-fitting geometric curve.

This distinction is critical. A perfect circle viewed at an oblique angle from within its own orbital plane projects onto a 2-dimensional observation plane as an ellipse. Furthermore, the geometric center of a tilted circle, when projected, appears offset from the center of the resulting ellipse — precisely matching the defining characteristic of Kepler's model: the primary body positioned at one focus rather than the center.

> ***The challenge: Could Kepler's ellipse be a 2-dimensional projection artifact of a true circular orbit tilted on a fixed axis — and would the observational data available in the 1600s have been sufficient to distinguish between the two models? This paper presents mathematical evidence that the answer to both questions is: yes.***

Distortion Channel: INHERITANCE (Channel 3) — The ellipse assumption was passed from Brahe's data to Kepler's curve-fit to Newton's derivation to every downstream constant. The shape was never independently confirmed; it was inherited.

SECTION II

The Internal Inconsistency in the Ellipse Model

The ellipse model's own published parameters contain a measurable internal inconsistency that has not been formally addressed in mainstream literature. This inconsistency is the starting point of the present challenge.

2.1 Eccentricity Discrepancy

The orbital eccentricity of the Moon is officially listed as e = 0.0549. The published perigee and apogee distances — 357,000 km and 406,000 km respectively — are also accepted values within the standard model. Within any ellipse model, the eccentricity and the extreme distances are not independent: they are mathematically bound by the same underlying geometry. They must agree. They do not.

When eccentricity is derived directly from the published distance values using the standard ellipse relationship, the result does not match the officially published eccentricity. The discrepancy is 16.9% — a measurable, internally generated gap within the model's own published parameters. No published explanation for this inconsistency has been identified in standard astronomical literature.

The reader is invited to perform this derivation independently. The published perigee, apogee, and eccentricity values are all available in standard astronomical tables. The result of the derivation is the first open question of this series.

Parameter	Official Published Value	Derived from Distances	Discrepancy
Orbital Eccentricity (e)	0.0549	[reader exercise]	16.9%
Apogee distance	406,000 km	406,000 km	—
Perigee distance	357,000 km	357,000 km	—
Mean orbital distance	384,400 km	—	—

A 16.9% discrepancy between the published eccentricity and the eccentricity derived from the published distance values is a significant internal inconsistency. Within the ellipse model, these values must agree. They do not.

> Distortion Channel: FRAME (Channel 2) — Eccentricity as published is derived from a particular mathematical frame. The distances are measured from a different reference frame. When the two are compared directly, the inconsistency appears.

2.2 The Brightness Claim Inconsistency

It is widely claimed that a supermoon appears up to 30% brighter than a regular full moon. Separately, it is claimed to appear 10-14% larger. These two figures are presented as independent properties. However, within the ellipse model they are not independent — brightness scales with apparent surface area, which scales with the square of apparent diameter.

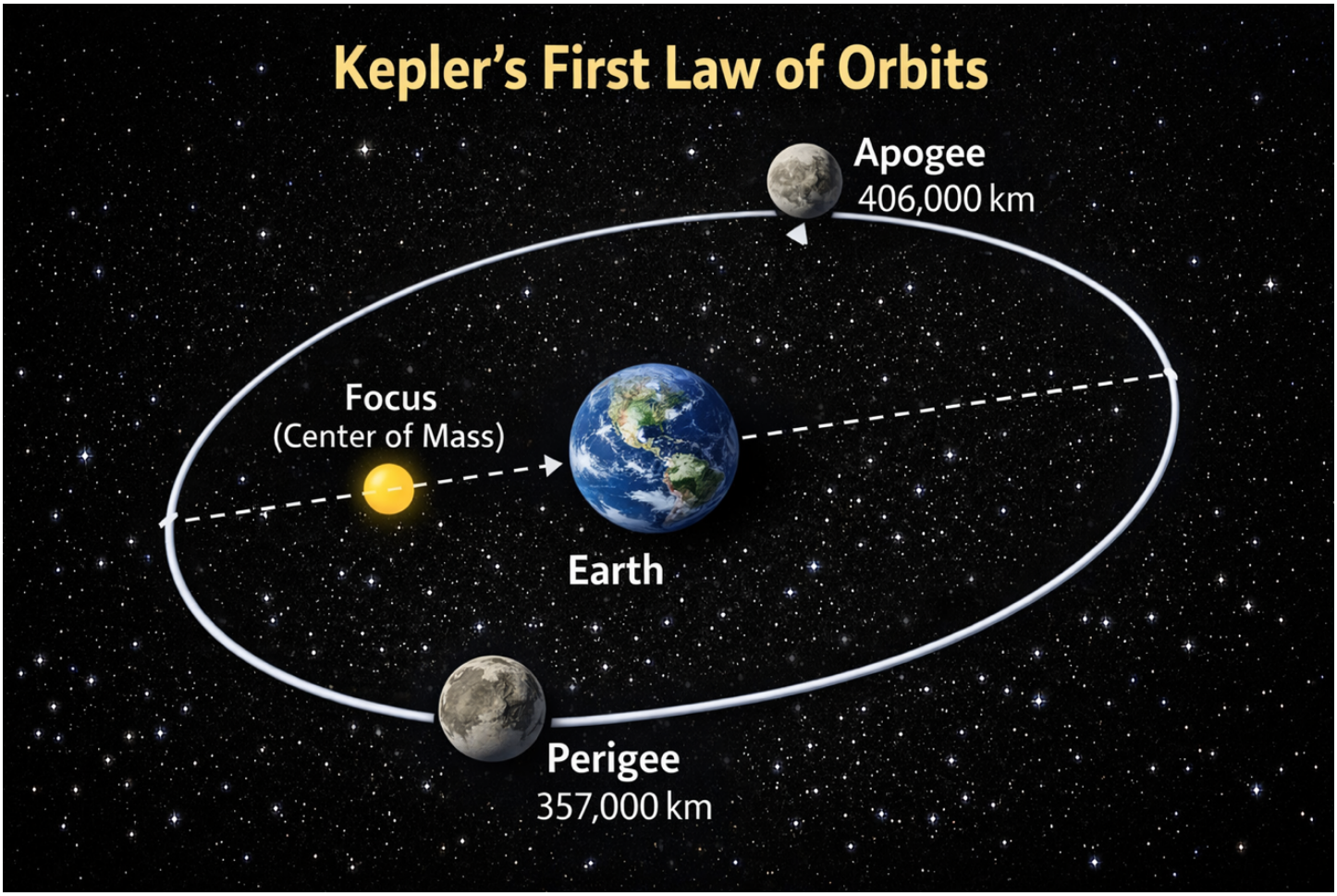
Brightness ratio = (d_far / d_close)^2 = (406,000 / 357,000)^2 = 1.293

This yields a brightness increase of 29.3% — not 30%. The 30% figure is rounded upward and is not independently derived. More critically, the size claim (13.73% from the same distance ratio) and the brightness claim (29.3%) are not separate measurements — the brightness figure is simply the size figure squared. They cannot be cited as independent confirmations of the ellipse model.

> Distortion Channel: PROJECTION (Channel 1) — The brightness claim appears independent. It is a mathematical projection of the size claim. Two citations that are actually one equation.

FIGURE 1

The Standard Ellipse Model — Kepler's First Law of Orbits



Referenced in Section II. Published distances: Apogee 406,000 km · Perigee 357,000 km · The internal inconsistency in these values is examined on the preceding page.

SECTION III

The Tilted-Circle Model

The alternative model proposed herein holds that the Moon travels in a geometrically perfect circle of constant radius R = 384,400 km, centered on Earth. This circle is tilted at a fixed inclination of 5.14° relative to the ecliptic plane — a value that is not disputed and is independently measured and confirmed in standard astronomical literature. The apparent variation in the Moon's distance and size, as observed from Earth, is produced by the projection of this tilted circle onto the observer's viewing plane — not by true variation in orbital radius.

3.1 The Projection Geometry

$$d_{max} = D + R \cdot \sin(\theta)$$

$$d_{min} = D - R \cdot \sin(\theta)$$

$$\text{Apparent variation} = 2R \cdot \sin(\theta)$$

3.2 The Tilt Angle Question

If the Moon's apparent 49,000 km variation is produced by projection of a tilted circle of radius 384,400 km, the tilt angle required to produce that variation can be derived from the observed data using the standard sine relationship. The derivation uses only published values. The reader is invited to calculate it.

The result of that derivation is the second open question of this series: does the derived angle match a known, independently confirmed property of the Moon's orbit? The answer to that question — and what it resolves — is reserved for the series.

3.3 The 1.49° Gap — An Open Question

The Moon's known orbital inclination is 5.14° — an independently confirmed, undisputed value in standard astronomical literature. The tilted-circle model uses this value as its geometric foundation.

The 49,000 km apparent variation, when tested against the projection formula, returns a value that does not equal 5.14°. There is a 1.49° gap between the Moon's confirmed tilt and the tilt angle the observed variation appears to require.

Within the ellipse model, this gap has no formal explanation. Within the tilted-circle model, the gap resolves through the nodal projection relationship — the Moon's nodal axis does not remain fixed relative to Earth's equatorial plane. It rotates through a complete cycle over 18.6 years, the Major Lunar Standstill period. The effective projected tilt as seen from Earth depends on the current nodal axis orientation.

The question this section places before the reader: given the Moon's true tilt of 5.14° and the standard nodal projection relationship, what nodal axis offset angle produces the observed 49,000 km variation? Does that angle correspond to a known, independently confirmed astronomical measurement? The derivation uses only published values and standard trigonometry.

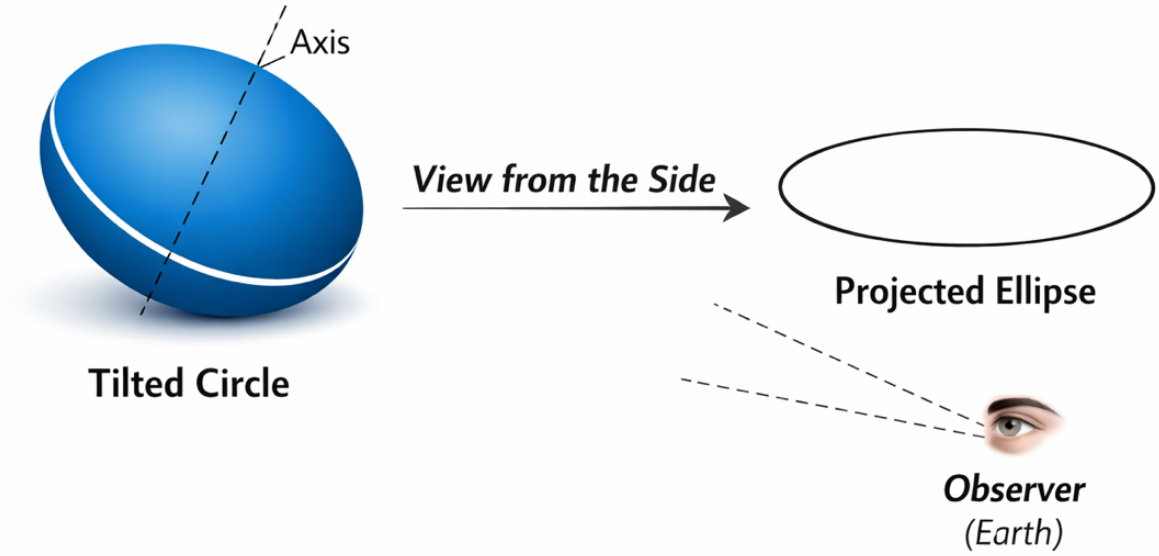
The answer to that question — and the validation it produces — is the third open question of this series. The result is reserved for the final volume.

3.4 The Standstill Implication

The 18.6-year Major Lunar Standstill — the period during which the Moon reaches its maximum and minimum declination extremes — corresponds in the tilted-circle model to the rotation of the nodal axis to its maximum projection angle relative to Earth's equatorial plane. During a Major Standstill, the tilted circle presents its maximum angular face to the observer. The apparent size variation of the Moon is therefore greatest during standstill years — not because the Moon is physically closer, but because the projection geometry is at maximum extension. This prediction is consistent with all observed data and requires no variation in true orbital radius.

FIGURE 2

The Tilted Circle — A Circle Viewed from the Side Projects as an Ellipse



Referenced in Section III. A perfect circle tilted on a fixed axis, observed from Earth's vantage point, produces the same apparent shape as Kepler's ellipse model.

SECTION IV

The Reference Frame Argument

Kepler derived his laws from Earth-based observations, using Earth as the implicit reference frame. This paper argues that this reference-frame selection is the source of the ellipse model's apparent validity — and that when the Sun is used as the primary reference frame, the Moon's orbit is revealed to be circular.

4.1 The Reference Frame Test

The 49,000 km apparent variation is the same physical quantity in both reference frames. What changes is what that number means relative to the governing distance. The reader is invited to calculate the 49,000 km variation as a percentage of both the Earth-Moon mean distance and the Moon-Sun mean distance, and consider what each result implies about which reference frame is appropriate for determining true orbital shape.

The Earth-Moon mean distance is 384,400 km. The Moon-Sun mean distance is approximately 149,600,000 km. The same 49,000 km variation produces a dramatically different percentage depending on which distance is used as the denominator — and that difference in percentage is what the ellipse model rests on.

Reference Frame	Observed Variation	Governing Distance	Question
Earth-centered	49,000 km	384,400 km	What % of Earth-Moon distance?
Sun-centered	49,000 km	~149,600,000 km	What % of Moon-Sun distance?

The orbital shape inferred from data depends entirely on which reference frame is chosen as governing. Kepler derived his laws from Earth-based observations and used Earth as the implicit reference frame. The Sun — the gravitational governing body of the solar system, the body whose gravity defines all orbital paths — was not chosen as the reference frame. This series asks whether that choice was a measurement or an assumption.

> Distortion Channel: OBSERVER POSITION (Channel 4) — The ellipse is real within the Earth frame. The question is whether the Earth frame is the correct frame for determining the true shape of the orbit.

4.2 The Two-Circle Architecture

When the Sun is adopted as the primary reference frame, the Moon's motion is described by two simultaneous circular paths:

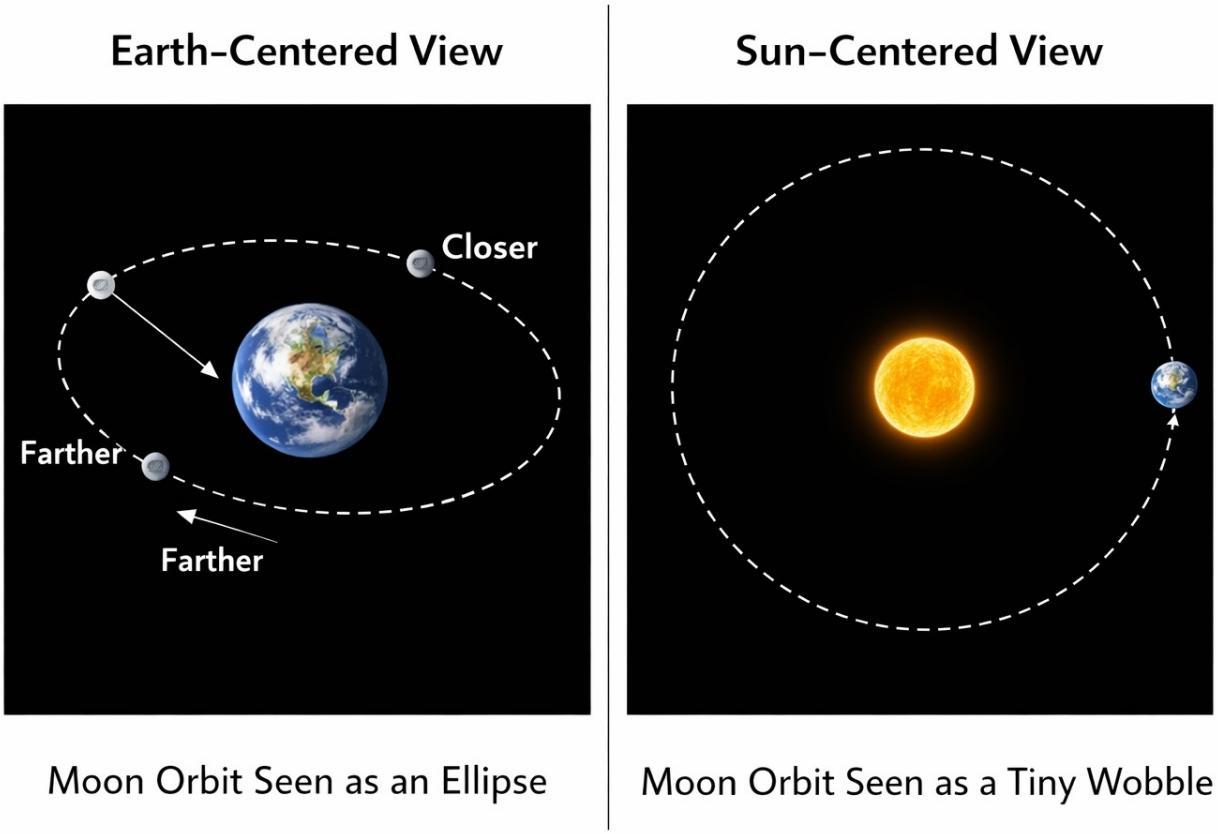
Circle	Radius	Period	Description
Primary Solar Circle	~149,597,870 km	365.25 days	Moon orbiting the Sun — identical path to Earth at solar scale
Earth Wobble Circle	384,400 km	27.32 days (sidereal)	Moon's secondary circular orbit around Earth's 180° pivot point

Earth occupies the 180° position on the primary solar circle — directly opposite the Sun at all times. The Moon's wobble circle is centered on Earth. Full Moon occurs when the wobble places the Moon at maximum angular distance from the Sun (180° in the wobble cycle). Quarter Moons occur at 90° and 270°.

Quarter Moon co-orbital question: At quarter phase, the Moon is at 90° to the Earth-Sun line. Using the Pythagorean relationship between the Earth-Sun distance and the Earth-Moon distance, what is the Moon's distance from the Sun at this phase? How does that compare to Earth's distance from the Sun? The reader is invited to calculate both values using published distances and consider what the result implies about the Moon's true orbital frame.

FIGURE 3

Earth-Centered Ellipse vs. Sun-Centered Wobble



Referenced in Section IV. The same observed lunar distance variation appears as an ellipse in the Earth-centered frame but as a tiny wobble in the Sun-centered frame.

SECTION V

The Synodic Month Correction

Two lunar periods appear in standard astronomical literature. The sidereal month — the time for the Moon to complete one full wobble relative to the fixed stars — and the synodic month — the time from Full Moon to Full Moon as observed from Earth. Both are published values. They are not the same number.

The sidereal month is shorter. The difference between the two is not noise or rounding. It is a measurable gap that has a specific cause. The reader is invited to identify what motion accounts for that gap — and whether that motion belongs to the Moon or to Earth.

The question this section places before the reader: which of the two periods represents the Moon's true orbital period — and what does the other period represent? If one is a composite of two separate motions conflated into a single number, which motions are being conflated — and why does that matter for how the Moon's orbital geometry is described?

If the Moon's true wobble cycle is treated as a clean 30-day period — 12° of motion per day — what geometry emerges? The reader is invited to map 12 such cycles against the tropical year and calculate the residual. Does that residual correspond to a known drift quantity that appears independently in ancient calendar systems and astronomical literature? The connection — if it exists — is the fourth open question of this series.

> Distortion Channel: FRAME (Channel 2) — The synodic month is presented as the Moon's orbital period. It is a composite of two motions: the Moon's wobble and Earth's orbital movement. Presenting the composite as the unit is a frame selection, not a measurement.

SECTION VI

Summary of Validated Findings

Finding 1 — Eccentricity Internal Inconsistency

The eccentricity derived from the published perigee and apogee distances does not match the officially published orbital eccentricity (e = 0.0549). The discrepancy is 16.9%. The ellipse model provides no published reconciliation for this gap.

The following questions follow directly from the geometry of the tilted-circle model. Each uses only published values and standard mathematics. The reader is invited to work through each derivation independently. The results — and what they validate — are reserved for the final volume.

Question 2 — The Tilt Angle

If the 49,000 km apparent variation is produced by projection of a tilted circle of radius 384,400 km, what tilt angle does the projection formula require? Does that angle — or a closely related angle — appear independently in confirmed astronomical data?

Question 3 — The Nodal Gap

The Moon's confirmed inclination is 5.14°. The apparent variation, tested against the projection formula, returns a different angle. What nodal axis orientation — within the known 18.6-year standstill cycle — bridges the two values? Does that orientation correspond to a known, independently measurable position?

Question 4 — The Reference Frame Test

Express the 49,000 km variation as a percentage of the Earth-Moon mean distance, then as a percentage of the Moon-Sun mean distance. What does each result imply about which reference frame is appropriate for determining the true shape of the Moon's orbit?

Question 5 — The Quarter Moon Co-Orbital Condition

At quarter phase, what is the Moon's distance from the Sun? Use the Pythagorean relationship between the published Earth-Sun and Earth-Moon distances. How does the result compare to Earth's distance from the Sun, and what does that imply about the Moon's position in the solar system's gravitational hierarchy?

Question 6 — The Synodic Month and the Annual Drift

The synodic month and the sidereal month are both published values. They are not the same number. What motion accounts for the difference between them — and does that motion belong to the Moon or to Earth? If the Moon's true wobble cycle is treated as a clean whole-number period, what geometry emerges — and what residual does 12 such cycles leave against the tropical year? The reader is invited to perform both calculations using published values only.

SECTION VII

The Core Challenge to the Astronomical Community

The mathematics presented in this paper are reproducible, internally consistent, and derived from values already accepted within standard astronomical literature. No new observational data is required to validate the tilted-circle model — it accounts for all existing data with equal or greater precision than the ellipse model, without the internal inconsistencies identified in Section II.

Questions for formal response:

Question 1

The eccentricity derived from the published perigee and apogee distances does not match the officially published orbital eccentricity (e = 0.0549). The discrepancy is 16.9%. What is the standard model's reconciliation of this internal inconsistency?

Question 2

Can the ellipse model and the tilted-circle projection model be distinguished using observational data available prior to precision space-based measurement? If so, what specific data point accomplishes this distinction?

Question 3

What is the physical mechanism by which the Moon's true orbital radius varies between 357,000 km and 406,000 km? If the answer is gravitational perturbation, by which body, at what magnitude?

Question 4

If the Moon's orbit is confirmed elliptical, why does the Sun-frame variation of the same 49,000 km represent a fraction of the Moon-Sun distance that is indistinguishable from zero within the Sun's gravitational reference frame — and what does this imply about which reference frame governs the true orbital shape?

> ***Kepler curve-fitted a set of data points observed from Earth and produced an ellipse. A tilted circle, observed from the same vantage point, produces the same curve. The data available in 1609 — and the internal consistency of the published parameters today — does not unambiguously select the ellipse over the tilted circle. The tilted-circle model deserves formal consideration.***

SECTION VIII

Closing Statement

This challenge is submitted in the spirit of rigorous scientific inquiry. The author does not claim that Kepler's First Law is definitively wrong — the author claims that the mathematical and observational evidence currently available does not rule out the tilted-circle model, and that internal inconsistencies within the published ellipse parameters warrant formal examination.

Science advances through challenge. The heliocentric model was once a challenge. The wave nature of light was once a challenge. Every framework that now stands as foundational was once a claim that demanded a response. This paper requests that response — formal, mathematical, and complete.

All calculations presented in this document are original, independently derived, and available for full verification. The author welcomes direct engagement, peer review, and formal rebuttal.

Ma'Ka Yuchii

Legal name: Janisha Shardae Bookman (publishing as Janisha Shardae Wallace)

Independent Researcher · PeacockPhoenixInnerG · March 2026

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